

The history of the town is an uneventful one 1492mc34
on the whole. In the year 1171 Wm. de Meschines
the elder his wife founded at Embsay a priory
for canons regular, which continued there about
35 years, when it was translated to Bolton, & thus
this exchange came about us learn from the
romantic legend of the "Boy of Wyremond"; - the
demerits of Bolton were held by the lady Alix
de Romille, William Fitz-Jurman, her husband -
the same Scotch baron who had ravaged Craven
in 1138, & afterwards wedded the heiress of William
the elder de Meschines, whose name by her
mother's name, Romille. They had one surviving
son, the Boy of Wyremond, who, in taking the ship,
a common enough feat, was drawn back by the
dog he held in leash, fell into the wharf, & was
"strangled by a merciless gnat," & was seen no
more, until "he rose a lifeless corse." "What is food
for a bottle here?" asked the dismayed people,
who brought the news to the boy's mother, "thought
but endless sorrow," said she, dismissing the
truth: then the monks of Embsay came with
counsel & consolation, & it was thought good
for her comfort that the lady should raise a
fair Abbey in Bolton Woods, near the scene
of her loss, & endow it with her boy's lands, where
the monks should put up daily masses for
her & hers. So runs the legend which words
with this beautiful poem has made familiar,
but against it stands the uncompromising
fact that this Boy of Wyremond himself signed
the deeds warranting the transfer of the lands of

But where are the English wools? we ask, anxious
to compare their qualities with those of the
~~foreign fleeces~~ whose merits had been pointed out:
inquiries were made, but not a fleece ^{can} could
be produced; though, from a five years ^{ago} back,
50 sorters were constantly employed in
this Mill upon English wools alone. Our
informant, Mr. Titus Salt, attributed this
suggestive fact solely to the late fashion
in women's dress - the use of ^{soft} fine, dull fabrics
in the production of which the bright-English
wools cannot be employed. Pure alpaca
stuffs are still largely made for coatings
& other purposes not affected by this fashion.
& heaps of 'grey-looking stuff', brown, black,
& 'shirley-brown' - beautifully fine & long
wools by the way - lay about in heaps ready
for the ~~sort~~ sorter. But our interest in
the ^{display} foreign wools was ^{greatly} ^{impaired} ^{by} the ^{conspicuous}
absence of the home-grown 'long staple' upon
~~which we had supposed the worsted manufacture~~
~~to be largely dependent~~

It is easy to see how the withdrawal of
demand for his fleeces must tell on the
hard-pressed British farmer; & we learned
with pleasure

Alas, ^{they are} compensated by their absence ^{on the fine farms} ^{at the} ^{fact}
places of Britain; a fact who attributed solely
the late fashion. Our long staple wools of 3

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Given

The account of this 'Paving' of 1569, - the object of which was to restore the Norman Catholic faith, & ^{possibly} to seat Mary of Scotland on her throne - is accurate enough in all but what relates to the Norton family. Of Richard Norton's nine living sons, four appear to have taken no part in the rebellion; one was attainted, but not executed; three were pardoned; & only one, Christopher, ^{supposed death} ~~was executed~~ with his uncle Thomas Norton. Of the seven daughters of the house no particulars appear.

But the romantic associations of Ryfelton tempt us to linger too long: & leaving ^{then} Linton & Threapfield for a future ramble down the valley, ^{let us} press forward to Grassington. - ^{our destination was} ~~the vale~~ ^{grazing a village situated} ~~in the vale~~ ^{in the heart of Upper Wharfedale} ~~just~~ ^{immediately} above the Ghaistrills.

Ghaistrills Ford is a rapid in the upper course of the Wharfe, & the spot where it occurs is a truly lovely bit of river scenery. At this point the valley is pitched so high & spread so open to the heavens that the frame is braced in the keen air of moor & mountain while the eye dwells with delight on scenes of verdure & softness.

~~The river flows~~ ^{the river flows} between shelving banks of grey-white limestone which the weathering of many winters has worn into endless wrinkles & shallows, & these afford ~~forming~~ root-hold to bramble & wild rose, to ash or hazel; while the narrowest chinks are adorned with feathery tufts of bracken, or of the limestone polypody, or hartstongue makes the spot-festive with shining knots of green ribbon. But these are ordinary adornments; that which is peculiar, designed in fine contrast with the pallid grey of the rock, is the velvet-edging of mosses, the colour of a green velveteen shooting-jacket, only much darker, nearly black, which softens every ledge & fills up every crevice.

Above the banks, green pastures climb on either side towards the somewhat broken, sharply defined sky-line of the distant fells. The slope is very gradual, a gently inclined plane, which the eye follows upwards with pleasure; though the fields are divided by long lines of deep grey water the general aspect of the valley is one of delightful verdure & fertility. Hedger there

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there are not; but there are scattered trees, clumps
of trees, woods; indeed every considerable
house in the neighbourhood is enclosed
in a wood, & from any elevation the eye
may range over half a dozen forest patches,
some of them a mile in depth, skirted the
bases of the fells: these are fragments of the
ancient forest which stretched for some
twenty miles between Bolton & Buckden.
The trees in these woods are, for the most-
part, rather stunted Scotch firs; hazel
copces, enclosing open sunny glades.
border the river; here & there is a group
of yew trees, ~~but~~ or a pine ^{the Craven oak} spread
abroad its branches. The ^{the} ash appears to
be the ~~only~~ tree which attains ^{the most} a very considerable
growth in the district.

This is an exceedingly rich pastoral
country; the fat pastures & fine cattle of
Craven are celebrated, & lean beasts from
Ireland & from the Scotch Highlands are brought
here to be fattened for the market. The farms
are grazing or dairy farms, & among
the delights of the neighbourhood are to be
reckoned the abundant rich, sweet-
milk & delicious cream; truly it is
a mistake to live upon anything else
here, nor is it easy to do so, for vegetables
fruit & ~~vegetables~~ meat are usually brought
'up ^{daals} ~~from~~' from Bradford or Skipton.
Grassington is, ^{with the exception of 'Long Easingham'} the most-considerable
place in Wharfedale above Alhey; it is a long
st-

hope of Bradford lies in the determination of his
 manufacturers to emulate whatever excellence
 is to be ascribed to the productions of foreign
 looms; possibly, to excel the French & German
 manufacturers in their own lines; but it is
 by means of Soft Wool fabrics that this success
^{can now} be achieved; the most enterprising
 manufacturers cannot enforce the wearing of
 Closures shuff, & therefore, cannot consume
 Bright-haired British wools. ~~It is unnecessary~~

It is unnecessary to dwell on the distressing
 state of the agricultural interest, or to point
 out why the farmers of the Midlands, Devonshire
 & Eastern Counties, should watch the
 working of Lady Bective's movement with
 grave anxiety. For the sake of farmers &
 manufacturers alike, much sympathy
 was felt with the patriotic motive of the
 Meeting held lately at the Mansion House
 to consider ~~as~~ the best means of promoting
 the British Woollen Industries: though
 no doubt Lord Salisbury's appeal to the
 women of England was widely read at the time,
 we will venture to quote the Resolutions he
 proposed, & one or two sentences enforcing
 it, - merely to refresh the memory of the reader.

Resolved, "That - under present circumstances
 it is a matter of national interest that purchasers
 of textile fabrics should, as far as possible
 give preference to goods of British origin."
 Purchasers were reminded that "each one
 of them, as they made selections, did, in his
 or her sphere & proportion, determine whether
 large bodies of English artisans & English
 ofri